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(Original Signature of Member)

117TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

**H. R.** \_\_\_\_\_

To amend the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act of 2015 to require abortion providers to notify the national human trafficking hotline of victims of trafficking, and for other purposes.

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**IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

Mr. BUDD introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee  
on \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**A BILL**

To amend the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act of 2015 to require abortion providers to notify the national human trafficking hotline of victims of trafficking, and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Stopping Traffickers  
5       and Their Accomplices Act of 2022”.

6       **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7       Congress finds the following:

1           (1) Slavery and involuntary servitude are in-  
2           compatible with American society and law.

3           (2) The 13th Amendment to the United States  
4           Constitution abolished legal slavery and involuntary  
5           servitude in the United States.

6           (3) Despite slavery being abolished in 1865,  
7           modern forms of slavery still exist throughout the  
8           United States.

9           (4) Every year, hundreds of thousands of Amer-  
10          icans and immigrants are coerced into commercial  
11          sex acts against their will.

12          (5) In addition to sexual exploitation, victims of  
13          trafficking suffer repeated physical, mental, and  
14          emotional abuse at the hands of their traffickers.

15          (6) Abortion providers and facilities aid sex  
16          traffickers by turning a blind eye to the plight of  
17          abused women.

18          (7) The Department of State's 2017 Traf-  
19          ficking in Persons Report indicated that sex traf-  
20          fickers coerce women into receiving abortions against  
21          their will.

22          (8) Research conducted by Laura J. Lederer  
23          and Christopher A. Wetzel, entitled "The Health  
24          Consequences of Sex Trafficking and Their Implica-  
25          tions for Identifying Victims in Healthcare Facili-

1       ties” published in the Annals of Health Law Jour-  
2       nal, indicated that 71 percent of women coerced into  
3       commercial sex acts reported at least one pregnancy  
4       and 21 percent reported five or more pregnancies  
5       while trafficked (23 Annals Health L. 61 (2014)).

6           (9) Lederer and Wetzel’s research found that  
7       almost a third of women trafficked reported under-  
8       went numerous abortions as victims of trafficking.  
9       More than half of respondents answered that their  
10      abortion while a victim of sex trafficking was a re-  
11      sult of coercion. One victim of sex trafficking re-  
12      counted, “[in most of my six abortions,] I was under  
13      serious pressure from my pimps to abort the ba-  
14      bies”.

15          (10) A moral obligation exists to report sus-  
16      pected instances of sex trafficking to authorities.

17          (11) Section 2 of the 13th Amendment empow-  
18      ers Congress to enact appropriate legislation to com-  
19      bat all forms of slavery and involuntary servitude,  
20      including forced sex trafficking.

21   **SEC. 3. COMBAT HUMAN TRAFFICKING.**

22      Section 114 of the Justice for Victims of Trafficking  
23   Act of 2015 (34 U.S.C. 20709) is amended by adding at  
24   the end the following:

1       “(g) NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING HOTLINE NO-  
2       TIFICATION BY ABORTION PROVIDERS.—

3       “(1) REQUIREMENT.—

4               “(A) NOTIFICATION TO NATIONAL HUMAN  
5       TRAFFICKING HOTLINE.—Not later than 24  
6       hours after consulting with a patient, an abor-  
7       tion provider shall notify the national human  
8       trafficking hotline if the provider has a reason-  
9       able suspicion that the patient is a victim of  
10      trafficking.

11              “(B) REPORT TO ATTORNEY GENERAL  
12      AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT.—Not later  
13      than 24 hours after an abortion provider noti-  
14      fies the national human trafficking hotline  
15      under subparagraph (A), the Secretary of  
16      Health and Human Services shall notify the At-  
17      torney General of such notification by the abor-  
18      tion provider. Not later than 24 hours after re-  
19      ceipt of a notification from the Secretary of  
20      Health and Human Services under this sub-  
21      paragraph, the Attorney General shall notify  
22      the appropriate State and local law enforcement  
23      agencies.

24              “(C) PENALTY.—An abortion provider who  
25      violates subparagraph (A) shall be fined

1           \$10,000, imprisoned not more than 6 months,  
2           or both.

3           “(2) TRAINING.—

4                 “(A) AVAILABILITY.—The Secretary of  
5           Health and Human Services shall make avail-  
6           able to abortion providers the training entitled  
7           ‘Foundational (101) Human Trafficking  
8           Trainings- SOAR For Health Care’ (or any  
9           substantially similar successor training).

10                “(B) REQUIREMENT.—Each abortion pro-  
11           vider shall complete the training provided under  
12           subparagraph (A) on an annual basis and prior  
13           to January 30 of each calendar year, and cer-  
14           tify such completion to the Director of the Of-  
15           fice on Trafficking in Persons of the Depart-  
16           ment of Health and Human Services. The cer-  
17           tification under this subparagraph shall include  
18           the protocols that the abortion provider has in  
19           place to identify and assist victims of traf-  
20           ficking.

21                “(C) PENALTY.—An abortion provider who  
22           fails to comply with subparagraph (B) shall be  
23           subject to a fine in an amount of \$1,000 per  
24           day of noncompliance.

25           “(3) RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.—

1           “(A) NO REQUIREMENT FOR VICTIMS OF  
2           TRAFFICKING TO SELF-REPORT.—Nothing in  
3           this subsection may be construed to require a  
4           victim of trafficking to self-report.

5           “(B) NO RIGHT TO ABORTION.—Nothing  
6           in this subsection may be construed to provide  
7           a right to an abortion.

8           “(4) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

9           “(A) The term ‘abortion provider’ means a  
10          person who—

11           “(i) performs an abortion and is li-  
12          censed to practice medicine and surgery or  
13          osteopathic medicine and surgery; or

14           “(ii) is otherwise legally authorized to  
15          perform an abortion.

16          “(B) The term ‘victim of trafficking’ has  
17          the meaning given to such term in section 103  
18          of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of  
19          2000 (22 U.S.C. 7102).”.